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42. The cleaning composition of claim 39, which comprises a surfactant selected from the group consisting of anionic, nonionic, and cationic surfactants, and mixtures thereof.
43. The cleaning composition of claim 39, which comprises a bleaching agent.
44. The cleaning composition of claim 39, which comprises a builder.
45. A fabric softening composition, comprising the enzyme preparation of claim 37, an enzyme selected from the group consisting of amylases, cellulases, lipases, pectin degrading enzymes, proteases and xyloglucanases, and a cationic surfactant comprising two long chain lengths.

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### REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 9-11, 13, 20-23 and 26-29 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 32-45 have been added and therefore are pending in the present application. Claims 32-45 are supported by claims 1-3, 9-11, 13, 20-23 and 26-29.

It is respectfully submitted that the present amendment presents no new issues or new matter and places this case in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is requested.

#### I. The Rejection of Claims 1-3, 9-11, 13, 14 and 20-29 under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1-3, 9-11, 13, 14 and 20-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Mendoza et al. (World J. Microbio. Biotechnol., 1994, Vol. 10:551-555) in view of Cuperus et al. (WO 95/35362). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Mendoza et al. disclose a mannanase from *Bacillus subtilis*. At 554, Mendoza et al. describe that they calculated the amino acid composition of the mannanase. Mendoza et al. state that the enzyme contains glycine, glutamic acid, serine, aspartic acid and alanine "in considerable amounts."

However, Mendoza et al. do not teach or suggest the mannases of the present invention. Moreover, the N-terminal sequence of the mannanase described Mendoza et al. (see page 554) is significantly different from the N-terminal amino acid sequence recited in new claim 34.

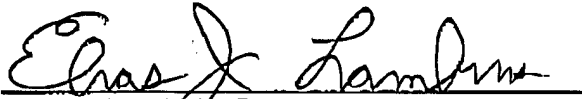
Cuperus et al. merely disclose that mannases are useful for cleaning. However, Mendoza et al., Cuperus et al. do not teach or suggest the mannases of the present invention.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the claims overcome this rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

**II Conclusion**

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all claims are in condition for allowance. Early action to that end is respectfully requested. The Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if there are any questions concerning this amendment or application.

Respectfully submitted,



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